

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

The text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (currently amended) A computer readable medium containing an extended HTML document generation program which generates an extended HTML document in accordance with specifications of extended tags included in an input HTML document, controlling a computer to execute:

reading an inputted HTML document created with an HTML editor which automatically converts each element bracketed between a pair of a start structural tag and an end structural tag within a source HTML document into that enclosed by a pair of lower level element tags,

recognizing an extended tag enclosed by a pair of lower level element tags created with the HTML editor, which is defined so that the extended tag itself does not develop into a text within the HTML document read in said reading, and

deleting an HTML tag pair which encloses only ~~[[an]]the~~ extended tag or which encloses no element within the HTML document within which said recognizing has been executed, while allowing the computer to generate the HTML document in accordance with specifications of the extended tag without maintaining the extended tag itself.

2. (currently amended) A method of generating an extended HTML document in accordance with specifications of extended tags included in a source HTML document with an HTML editor which automatically interchanges, if a tag is bracketed between a pair of HTML start and end tags relating to character style and adjoins one of the HTML tags within a source HTML document, the former tag and its adjoining HTML tag, comprising:

editing a source HTML document by adding, with respect to ~~[[an]]a~~ first type extended tag which is defined so that the first type extended tag itself develops into a text and bracketed by a pair of HTML start and end tags relating to character style and adjoins one of the HTML tags within the source HTML document, an arbitrary text immediately after said HTML start tag and immediately prior to said HTML end tag respectively and enclosing each arbitrary text by a predetermined identification extended tag pair as a second type tag pair with the HTML editor;

reading, after said HTML editor automatically interchanging each HTML tag relating to

the character style and its adjoining predetermined identification extended tag within the HTML document, the HTML document in which each set of said HTML tag relating to the character style and said arbitrary text is enclosed by the predetermined identification extended tag pair as a result of the HTML editor's automatically interchanging each tag relating to the character style and its adjoining predetermined identification extended tag within the source HTML document;

recognizing said HTML tag relating to the character style and the predetermined identification extended tag pair other than the first type extended tag; and

deleting elements enclosed by said predetermined identification extended tag pair except for said HTML tag relating to the character style and also deleting said predetermined identification extended tag itself while allowing the computer to generate the HTML document in accordance with specifications of the first type extended tag without maintaining the first type extended tag itself.

3-5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A method for generating an extended HTML document in accordance with specifications of extended tags included in an input HTML document, comprising:

reading an inputted HTML document created with an HTML editor which automatically converts each element bracketed between a pair of a start structural tag and an end structural tag within a source HTML document into that enclosed by a pair of lower level element tags,

recognizing an extended tag enclosed by a pair of lower level element tags created with the HTML editor, which is defined so that the extended tag itself does not develop into a text within the HTML document read in said reading step, and

deleting an HTML tag pair which encloses only [[an]]the extended tag or which encloses no element within the HTML document within which said recognizing has been executed while allowing the computer to generate the HTML document in accordance with specifications of the extended tag without maintaining the extended tag itself.

7. (currently amended) An apparatus for generating an extended HTML document in accordance with specifications of extended tags included in an input HTML document, comprising:

a computer; and

a computer readable medium containing an HTML document generation program controlling the computer to execute:

reading an inputted HTML document created with an HTML editor which automatically converts each element bracketed between a pair of a start structural tag and an end structural tag within a source HTML document into that enclosed by a pair of lower level element tags,

recognizing an extended tag enclosed by a pair of lower level element tags created with the HTML editor, which is defined so that the extended tag itself does not develop into a text within the HTML document read in said reading, and

deleting an HTML tag pair which encloses only [[an]]the extended tag or which encloses no element within the HTML document within which said recognizing has been executed while allowing the computer to generate the HTML document in accordance with specifications of the extended tag without maintaining the extended tag itself.

8. (cancelled)

9. (cancelled)

10. (new) A computer readable medium containing an extended HTML document generation program generating an extended HTML document in accordance with specification of extended tags included in a source HTML document with an HTML editor which automatically interchanges, if a tag is bracketed by a pair of HTML start and end tags relating to character style and adjoins one of the HTML tags within a source HTML document, the former tag and its adjoining HTML tag, the HTML editor editing a source HTML document by adding, with respect to a first type extended tag which is defined so that the first type extended tag itself develops into a text and bracketed by a pair of a HTML start and end tags relating to character style and adjoins one of the HTML tags within the source HTML document, an arbitrary text immediately after said HTML start tag and immediately prior to said HTML end tag respectively and enclosing each arbitrary text by a predetermined identification extended tag pair as a second type tag pair; the extended HTML document generation program controlling a computer to execute;

reading, after said HTML editor automatically interchanging each HTML tag relating to the character style and its adjoining predetermined identification extended tag within the HTML document, the HTML document in which each set of said HTML tag relating to the character style and said arbitrary text is enclosed by the predetermined identification extended tag pair as a result of the HTML editor's automatically interchanging each tag relating to the character style and its adjoining predetermined identification extended tag within the source HTML document;

recognizing said HTML tag relating to the character style and the predetermined

identification extended tag pair other than the first type extended tag; and

deleting elements enclosed by said predetermined identification extended tag pair except for said HTML tag relating to the character style and also deleting said predetermined identification extended tag itself while allowing the computer to generate the HTML document in accordance with specifications of the first type extended tag without maintaining the first type extended tag itself.

11. (new) An apparatus, comprising:

a computer; and

a computer readable medium containing an extended HTML document generation program generating an extended HTML document in accordance with specification of extended tags included in a source HTML document with an HTML editor which automatically interchanges, if a tag is bracketed by a pair of HTML start and end tags relating to character style and adjoins one of the HTML tags within a source HTML document, the former tag and its adjoining HTML tag, the HTML editor editing a source HTML document by adding, with respect to a first type extended tag which is defined so that the first type extended tag itself develops into a text and bracketed by a pair of a HTML start and end tags relating to character style and adjoins one of the HTML tags within the source HTML document, an arbitrary text immediately after said HTML start tag and immediately prior to said HTML end tag respectively and enclosing each arbitrary text by a predetermined identification extended tag pair as a second type tag pair; the extended HTML document generation program controlling a computer to execute:

reading, after said HTML editor automatically interchanging each HTML tag relating to the character style and its adjoining predetermined identification extended tag within the HTML document, the HTML document in which each set of said HTML tag relating to the character style and said arbitrary text is enclosed by the predetermined identification extended tag pair as a result of the HTML editor's automatically interchanging each tag relating to the character style and its adjoining predetermined identification extended tag within the source HTML document;

recognizing said HTML tag relating to the character style and the predetermined identification extended tag pair other than the first type extended tag; and

deleting elements enclosed by said predetermined identification extended tag pair except for said HTML tag relating to the character style and also deleting said predetermined identification extended tag itself while allowing the computer to generate the HTML document in

Serial No. 09/823,969

accordance with specifications of the first type extended tag without maintaining the first type extended tag itself.